

## Message Text

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11  
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 OPIC-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 H-02 AGR-05 /039 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:AATHIBAULT,JR.:MMK

APPROVED BY NEA/INS:DKUX

EB/ORF/ICD/TRP:PPPIKAUSKAS (INFO)

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R 162009Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, CE

SUBJECT: GSL TAKE-OVER OF STERLING COMPANY ESTATES

DEPARTMENT WAS CONTACTED ON JULY 11 BY JOSEPH H. WERTHEIM, PROMINENT TEA IMPORTER AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE TEA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA TO REPORT ON CABLE RECEIVED FROM LONDON PRINCIPALS ABOUT RESULTS OF MEETING IN COLOMBO JULY 10 BETWEEN TREVOR MOY OF STEUART AND CO. AND H.A. DES. GUNASEKERA, SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. ACCORDING TO WERTHEIM, GUNASEKERA INFORMED MOY THAT GSL HAD TAKEN A DECISION TO NATIONALIZE ALL FOREIGN OWNED PLANTATION INTERESTS AND THAT LEGISLATION TO THIS EFFECT WILL BE INTRODUCED IN VERY NEAR FUTURE. GUNASEKERA REPORTEDLY STRESSED THAT PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE COMPENSATION WOULD BE PAID, AND THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ALSO CONSIDERING SCHEME UNDER WHICH ACQUIRED ESTATES WOULD BE LEASED BACK TO PRESENT OWNERS FOR CONTINUED OPERATION. WERTHEIM SAID THAT TO THIS KNOWLEDGE NO AMERICAN INTERESTS WOULD BE AFFECTED BY A TAKE-OVER BUT WISHED TO KNOW IF ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS AVAILABLE ON THE TAKE-OVER

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PROPOSAL. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NATIONALIZATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE167428  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** AATHIBAULT,JR.:MMK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750246-0936  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750750/aaaabsni.tel  
**Line Count:** 61  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MartinML  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 30 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <30 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by MartinML>  
**Review Markings:**  

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GSL TAKE-OVER OF STERLING COMPANY ESTATES DEPARTMENT WAS CONTACTED ON JULY 11 BY JOSEPH H. WERTHEIM  
**TAGS:** EINV, CE, STERLING COMPANY ESTATES  
**To:** COLOMBO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006